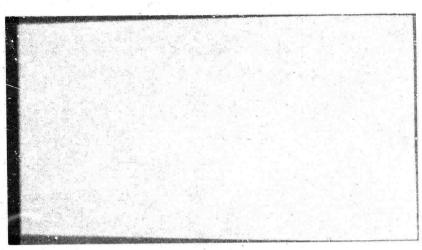
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AD NUMBER AD856573 LIMITATION CHANGES TO: Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited. FROM: Distribution authorized to U.S. Gov't. agencies only; Proprietary Information; 27 AUG 1968. Other requests shall be referred to Space and Missile Systems Organization, Los Angeles, CA 90045. **AUTHORITY** SAMSO, USAF ltr, 16 Aug 1943







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FINAL REPORT

GEMINI B BLAST SHIELD:

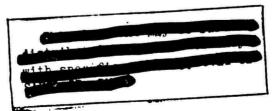
MECHANICAL PORPERTIES OF ALUMINUM FLEXCORE

Report 058-AKA.04 Model 195B

Controct No. F04695-67-C-0023

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Materials



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LAMBERT - ST LOUIS MUNICIPAL AIRPORT.
BOK SIG. ST LOUIS, MO 63166

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ABSTRACT

The object of this test was to determine the plate shear strength and the flatwise bare compressive strength of aluminum flexcore manufactured by Hexcel as well as Incorporated of Arlington, Texas. In addition, the effect of the Flexcore thickness on the plate shear strength, was determined.

The Gemini B Blast shield is a sandwich construction composed of glass fabric reinforced plastic skins adhesively bonded to aluminum Flexcore. The results of this test will provide mechanical property data for the design of the blast shield.

This test revealed that the Flexcore (4.1 lbs/ft³ density) fabricated from 5052 aluminum alloy had an average plate shear strength of 291 psi in the "L" direction and 171 psi in the "W" direction. The 5052 Flexcore (7.1 lbs/ft³ density) had an average shear strength of 614 psi in the "L" direction and 378 psi in the "W" direction. These average values were obtained from specimens .625 inches thick. The Flexcore (4.1 lbs/ft³) fabricated from 5056 aluminum alloy exhibited an average plate shear strength of 349 psi in the "L" direction and 203 psi in the "W" direction. These average values were obtained from specimens 1.100 inches thick.

The compression test data shows the Flexcore fabricated from 5052 alloy in 4.1 and 7.1 lbs/ft³ had an average compressive strength of 525 and 1437 psi, respectively. The Flexcore fabricated from 5056 aluminum alloy and with a density of 4.1 lbs/ft³ had a compressive strength of 735 psi.

The plate shear strength vs Flexcore thickness data indicates that as the thickness of the core increases the plate shear strength decreases.

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1. INTRODUCTION

This test was conducted to determine the plate shear strength and the flatwise compressive strength of aluminum Flexcore manufactured by Hexcel, Incorporated of Arlington, Texas. In addition, the effect of the Flexcore thickness on the plate shear strength was determined.

The Gemini B Blast Shield is a sandwich construction composed of glass fabric reinforced plastic skins adhesively bonded to aluminum Flexcore. This test will provide mechanical property data for the design of the blast shield.

This test was conducted by the McDonnell Company Metallurgical Laboratory during the period 25 January through 3 June 1968.

2. TEST MATERIAL

The test material utilized during this investigation was aluminum Flexcore obtained from Hexcel, Incorporated, Arlington, Texas, and consisted of the following items:

- (a) Aluminum Flexcore, 9 square feet, Al/F-40-5052, 0.0025 inch 4.1 lbs/ft3 0.625 inches thick, comprising 3.0 square feet from each of three blocks.
- (b) Aluminum Flexcore, 9 square feet, Al/F-40-5052, 0.0047 inch 7.1 lbs/ft³, 0.625 inches thick, comprising 3.0 square feet from each of three blocks.
- (c) Aluminum Flexcore, 9 square feet, Al/F-40-5056, 0.0025 inch 4.1 lbs/ft³, 1.100 inches thick, comprising 3.0 square feet from each of three blocks.
- (d) Aluminum Flexcore, 1 square foot each, 0.250, 0.500, 0.750, 1.000, 1.450, 2.000, and 2.500 inches thick from one of the blocks used to supply material for item (a).

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3. TEST PROCEDURE

A total of 160 plate shear specimens were cut from the Flexcore to the dimensions shown in Table 1 on page 9. Five specimens were cut with the length parallel to the ribbon direction ("L" direction) and five were cut with the length perpendicular to the ribbon direction ("W" direction) from each of the groups listed in Table 1 on page 9. After cutting, the specimens were bonded to steel shear plates as shown in Figure 1 on page 5. The core was bonded to the plates, using HT-424 adhesive cured for 2 hours at 335± 10°F.

The ultimate strength of the bonded specimens was determined at room temperature in the 30,000 pound universal testing machine by loading them to failure at a machine head travel rate of .015 inches/minute. A photograph of the test setup is presented in Figure 2 on page 6. The ultimate shear stress is obtained by dividing the ultimate load by the flatwise area of the specimen.

A total of 45 flatwise compression specimens were cut from the Flexcore to the dimensions shown in Table 2 on page 9. Five specimens were cut from each of the nine groups.

The ultimate compressive strength of the specimens was determined at room temperature in the 30,000 pound universal testing machine by loading them to failure at a machine head travel rate of .003 inches/minute/inch of core height. A photograph of the test setup is presented in Figure 3 on page 7. The ultimate compressive stress is obtained by dividing the ultimate load by the flatwise area of the specimen.

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4. TEST RESULTS

The results of the plate shear tests conducted during this investigation are presented in Tables 3 through 8 on pages 10 through 13. Results of the compression tests are shown in Tables 9 and 10 on pages 16 and 17. The plate shear strength vs core thickness data accumulated during this test is presented graphically in Figure 4 on page 8.

5. SUMMARY OF RESULTS

This test revealed that the Flexcore (4.1 lbs/ft³ density) fabricated from 5052 aluminum alloy had an average plate shear strength of 291 psi in the "L" direction and 171 psi in the "W" direction. The 5052 Flexcore (7.1 lbs/ft³ density) had an average shear strength of 614 psi in the "L" direction and 378 psi in the "W" direction. These average values were obtained from specimens .625 inches thick. The Flexcore (4.1 lbs/ft³) fabricated from 5056 aluminum alloy exhibited an average plate shear strength of 349 psi in the "L" direction and 203 psi in the "W" direction. These average values were obtained from specimens 1.100 inches thick.

The compression test data shows the Flexcore fabricated from 5052 alloy in 4.1 and 7.1 lbs/ft³ had an average compressive strength of 525 and 1437 psi, respectively. The Flexcore fabricated from 5056 aluminum alloy and with a density of 4.1 lbs/ft³ had a compressive strength of 735 psi.

The plate shear strength vs Flexcore thickness data indicates that as the thickness of the core increases the plate shear strength decreases.

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SKETCH OF PLATE SHEAR TEST SETUP

LOAD CENTER LINE 8.50 (TYP) 1.50 1.50

DIMENSION DETERMINED BY SPECIMEN LENGTH.

DIMENSION DETERMINED BY SPECIMEN THICKNESS.

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PLATE SHEAR TEST SETUP

FIGURE 2



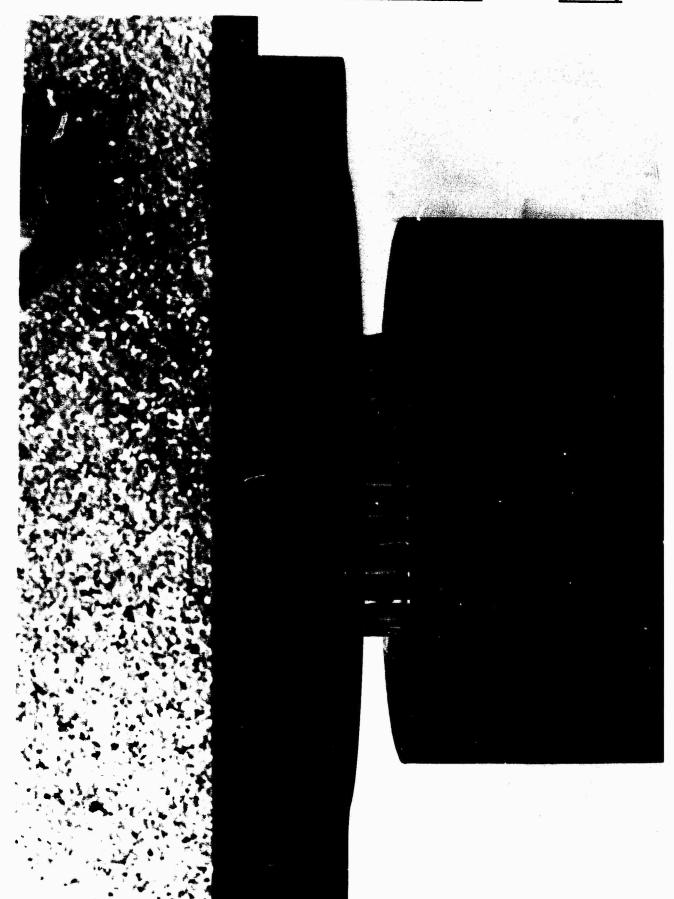
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FLATWISE COMPRESSION TEST SETUP

FIGURE 3



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FIGURE 4

CORE THICKNESS VS PLATE SHEAR STRENGTH

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		PLATE SHEAR SPECIMENS	TABLE 1
GROUP NUMBER	BLOCK NUMBER	FLEXCORE IDENTIFICATION	SPECIMEN SIZE (INCHES)
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	2362 2363 2364 2294 2298 2300 2362 2526 2526 2538	Al/F-40-5052-0.0025 in. 4.1 lb/ft3 Al/F-40-5052-0.0047 in. 7.1 lb/ft3 Al/F-40-5052-0.0025 in. 4.1 lb/ft3 Al/-40-5056-0.0025 in. 4.1 lb/ft3	6.125 x 2.00 x .625 4.50 x 2.00 x .250 6.00 x 2.00 x .500 6.25 x 2.00 x 1.000 6.50 x 2.00 x 1.450 6.50 x 2.00 x 2.000 6.50 x 2.00 x 2.000 6.50 x 2.00 x 2.50 6.125 x 2.00 x 1.100

COMPRESSION SPECIMENS

TABLE 2

GROUP	BLOCK	FLEXCORE IDENTIFICATION	SPECIMEN SIZE
NUMBER	NUMBER		(INCHES)
1 2 3 4 5 6 14 15 16	2362 2363 2364 2294 2298 2300 2521 2526 2538	A1/F-40-5052-0.0025 in. 4.1 lb/ft3 A1/F-40-5052-0.0025 in. 7.1 lb/ft3 + A1/F-40-5056-0.0025 in. 4.1 lb/ft3	3.00 x 3.00 x .625

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	PLATE SHEAR TEST RESULTS TABLE 3					
SPECIMEN NUMBER *	FLEXCORE IDENTIFICATION	ULTIMATE LOAD (LBS)	ULTIMATE SHEAR STRENGTH (PSI)	AVG. ULTIMATE SHEAR STRENGTH (PSI)		
1L 2L 3L 4L 5L	Al/F-40-5052-0.0025 in. 4.1 lb/ft ³ Group No. 1 Block No. 2362	3245 3375 3535 3290 3255	265 · 276 289 269 266	273		
1W 2W 3W 4W 5W	.625 inches thick	2200 2060 2115 2120 2170	180 168 173 173 177	174		
1L 2L 3L 4L 5L	Al/F-40-5052-0.0025 in. 4.1 lb/ft ³ Group No. 2 Block No. 2363	3495 3590 3570 3410 3510	285 293 291 278 287	2 ⁸ 7		
1W 2W 3W 4W 5W	.625 inches thick	2110 2070 2130 2140 2125	173 169 174 175 174	173		
1L 2L 3L 4L 5L	A1/F-40-5052-0.0025 in. 4.1 lb/ft3 Group No. 3 Block No. 2364	3665 3670 3835 3880 4200	299 300 313 317 343	314		
1W 2W 3W 4W 5W	.625 inches thick	2085 1975 2060 2070 2025	170 161 168 169 165	167		

*"L" indicates the ribbon direction is parallel to the loading direction and "W" indicates the ribbon direction is perpendicular to the loading direction.

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		•		Table 4		
PLATE SHEAR TEST RESULTS						
SPECIMEN NUMBER	, FLEXCORE IDENTIFICATION	ULTIMATE LOAD (LBS)	ULTIMATE SHEAR STRENGTH (PSI)	AVG. ULTIMATE SHEAR STRENGTH (PSI)		
1L 2L 3L 4L 5L	Al/F-40-5052-0.0047 in. 7.1 lb/ft ³ Group No. 4 Block No. 2294	7225 7300 7075 7525 7725	590 596 578 614 631	602		
1W 2W 3W 4W 5W	.625 inches thick	7725 4625 4575 4595 4570 4535	378 374 375 373 370	374		
1L 2L 3L 4L 5L	Al/F-40-5052-0.0047 in. 7.1 lb/ft ³ Group No. 5 Block No. 2298	7525 7300 7475 7625 7450	614 596 610 622 608	611		
1W 2W 3W 4W 5W	.625 inches thick	4750 4745 4720 4830 4675	388 387 385 394 382	387		
1L 2L 3L 4L 5L	A1/F-40-5052-0.0047 in. 7.1 lb/ft ³ Group No. 6 Block No. 2300	8500 7575 7575 7375 7425	694 618 618 602 606	628		
1W 2W 4W 5W	.625 inches thick	4605 4785 4480 4605 4455	376 391 366 376 364	374		

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	PLATE SHEAR TEST R	ESULTS		TABLE 5
SPECIMEN NUMBER 1L	FLEXCORE IDENTIFICATION A1/F-40-5056-0.0025 in.	ULTIMATE IOAD (LBS) 4415	ULTIMATE SHEAR STRENGTH (PSI) 340	AVG. ULTIMATE SHEAR STRENGTH (PSI)
2L 3L 4L 5L	4.1 1b/ft ³ Group 14 Lot No. 2521	4435 4485 4335 4515	341 345 334 347	341
1W 2W 3W 4W 5W	.625 inches thick	2605 2610 2560 2660 2680	200 201 197 205 206	202
1L 2L 3L 4L 5L	Al/F-40-5056-0.0025 in. 4.1 lb/ft Group 15 Lot No. 2526	4710 4715 4740 4700 4890	362 363 365 361 376	365
1W 2W 3W 4W 5W	•625 inches thick	2735 2720 2725 2760 2760	515 516 509 510 510	211
1L 2L 3L 4L 5L	A1/F-40-5056-0.0025 in. 4.1 lb/ft ³ Group 16 Lot No. 2538	4055 4735 4055 4450 4915	312 364 312 342 378	342
1W 2W 3W 4W 5W /	.625 inches thick	2540 2510 2540 2590 2510	195 193 195 199 193	195

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PLATE SHEAR TEST RESULTS TABLE 6					
SPECIMEN NUMBER	FLEXCORE IDENTIFICATION	ULTIMATE LOAD (LBS)	ULTIMATE SHEAR STRENGTH (PSI)	AVG.ULTIMATE SHEAR STRENGTH (PSI)	
1L 2L 3L 4L 5L	A1/F-40-5052-0.0025 in. 4.1 lb/ft ³ Group No. 7 Block No. 2362	2935 2945 2965 2980 3150	326 327 329 331 350	333	
1W 2W 3W 4W 5W	.250 inches thick	2060 1905 1885 2050 2045	229 211 209 228 227	221	
1L 2L 3L 4L 5L	A1/F-40-5052-0.0025 in. 4.1 lb/ft ³ Group No. 8 Block No. 2362	3395 3540 3430 3655 3625	283 295 285 305 302	29 ¹ 4	
1W 2W 3W 4W 5W	.500 inches thick	2310 2200 2210 2230 2295	193 183 184 186 191	187	
1L 2L 3L 4L 5L	Al/F-40-5052-0.0025 in. 4.1 lb/ft3 Group No. 9 Block No. 2362	3855 3910 3760 3675 3645	308 313 301 294 292	302	
1W 2W 3W 4W 5W	.750 inches thick	2350 2260 22:55 22:45 2270	188 181 180 180 182	182	

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	PLATE SHEAR T	est results		TABLE 7
SPECIMEN NUMBER	FLEXCORE IDENTIFICATION	ULTIMATE LOAD (LBS)	ULTIMATE SHEAR STRENGTH (PSI)	AVG. ULTIMATE SHEAR STRENGTH (PSI)
1L 2L 3L 4L 5L	Al/F-40-5052-0.0025 in. 4.1 lb/ft ³ Group No. 10 Block No. 2362	3825 3350 3545 4000 3840	294 258 273 308 295	286
1W 2W 3W 4W 5W	1.000 inches thick	2320 2230 2435 2310 2320	179 171 187 178 179	179
1L 2L 3L 4L 5L	Al/F-40-5052-0.0025 in. 4.1 lb/ft ³ Group No. 11 Block No. 2362	3545 3530 3525 3740 3380	273 272 271 288 260	273
1W 2W 3W 4W 5W	1.450 inches thick	2170 2100 2130 2155 2100	167 162 164 166 162	164
1L 2L 3L 4L 5L	Al/F-40-5052-0.0025 in. 4.1 lb/ft3 Group No. 12 Block No. 2362	3185 3295 3380 3215 3350	245 253 260 247 258	253
1W 2W 3W 4W 5W	2.000 inches thick	2180 2255 2250 2035 2285	168 174 173 157 176	170

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TABLE 8

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PLATE SHEAR TEST RESULTS

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specimen Number	FLEXCORE IDENTIFICATION	ULTIMATE LOAD (LBS)	ULTIMATE SHEAR STRENGTH (PSI)	AVG. ULTIMATE SHEAR STRENGTH (FSI)
1L 2L 3L 4L 5L	Al/F-40-5052-0.0025 in. 4.1 lb/ft ³ Group No. 13 Block No. 2362	3200 3400 3110 2840 3420	246 262 239 218 263	246
24 34 54 14	2.500 inches thick	2105 1970 1735 1990 1870	162 152 134 153 144	149

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FLEXCORE FLATWISE COMPRESSIVE DATA TABLE 9					
SPECIMEN NUMBER	FLEXCORE IDENTIFICATION	ultimate ioad (PSI)	ULTIMATE COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH (PSI)	AVG. ULTIMATE COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH (PSI)	
1	Al/F-40-5052-0.0025 in.	4375	486	496	
2	4.1 lb/ft ³	4665	518		
3	Group No. 1	4440	493		
4	Block No. 2362	4395	488		
5	.625 inches thick	4465	496		
1	Al/F-40-5052-0.0025 in.	4685	521	528	
2	4.1 lb/ft ³	4965	552		
3	Group No. 2	4855	539		
4	Block No. 2363	4570	508		
5	.625 inches thick	4665	518		
1	Al/F-40-5052-0.0025 in.	4840	538	552	
2	4.1 lb/ft ³	4595	511		
3	Group No. 3	4800	533		
4	Block No. 2364	5380	598		
5	.625 inches thick	5200	578		
1	Al/F-40-5052-0.0025 in.	12,825	1425	1514	
2	7.1 lb/ft	13,275	1475		
3	Group No. 4	13,800	1533		
4	Block No. 2294	13,900	1544		
5	.625 inches thick	14,350	1594		
1	Al/F-40-5052-0.0047 in.	13,275	1475	1430	
2	7.1 lb/ft ³	13,100	1456		
3	Group No. 5	12,825	1425		
4	Block No. 2298	12,950	1439		
5	.625 inches thick	12,175	1353		
1	Al/F-40-5052-0.0047 in.	12,800	1422	1366	
2	7.1 lb/ft3	13,150	1461		
3	Group No. 6	11,776	1308		
4	Block No. 2300	11,700	1300		
5	.625 inches thick	12,050	1339		

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TABLE 10

FLEXCORE FLATWISE COMPRESSIVE DATA

SPECIMEN NUMBER	FLEXCORE IDENTIFICATION	ULTIMATE LOAD (LBS)	ULTIMATE COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH (PSI)	AVG. ULTIMATE COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH (PSI)
1	Al/F-40-5005-0.0025 in.	6550	728	713
2	4.1 lb/ft ³	6375	708	
3	Group No. 14	6700	744	
4	Block No. 2521	6425	714	
5	1.100 inches thick	6050	672	
1	Al/F-40-5056-0.0025 in.	7400	822	821
2	4.1 lb/ft ³	7150	794	
3	Group No. 15	7600	844	
4	Block No. 2526	7650	850	
5	1.100 inches thick	7175	797	
1 2 3 4 5	A1/F-40-5056-0.0025 in. 4.1 lb/ft ³ Group No. 16 Block No. 2538 1.100 inches thick	6150 5725 5950 6650 5775	683 636 661 739 642	672

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